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# BREEZE HILL NEWS

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BREEZE HILL VICTORY GARDEN

IT IS no news to those who are accustomed to the Breeze Hill practice of keeping in front, to see that we have properly gone into sound and simple Victory gardening. Our seedsmen friends whose catalogues we print are mostly alert to the opportunity as well as the necessity.

But this sane effort does not hinder our vigorous endeavor to keep the garden flag flying high through the offerings of new things made in the Breeze Hill News.

The new roses we picture show that America is not losing ground by reason of war interference. Indeed, the stimulus given to our hybridizers means a most desirable change in the basis of hybridization, so that we are coming to have American roses for America.

The All-America items, both in seeds and roses, further show that we are alive to the vital value of continuing planting pressure for ornamentals right in the midst of all-out war. England tells us that we can fight better and can better support our fighting front by promoting the upkeep and improvement of the garden.

There is much loose money which can well be spent for garden items if our friends will compete for it.

J. Horack McFarland



### Victory Gardens in 1942

PEARL HARBOR had scarcely become a rallying-call before American gardeners were thumbing through the newly arriving seed catalogues and planning to raise food for victory. War gardens they were called in the last war, and many a front lawn became a potato patch. Victory gardens they are this time, and the layman's increasing understanding of the relationship between vitamins and health is leading him to plan and plant carefully.

At a recent National Victory Garden Conference, Dr. M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, declared: "One cannot expect to be physically fit, mentally alert, and ready to 'take it' unless a well-balanced diet, including plenty of fruits and vegetables, has provided that energy and fuel which is necessary to keep in topnotch condition all the time."

But real dirt gardeners don't wait to be told the connection between war and food; they feel it instinctively. Beat the war drums, and the gardener reaches for his hoe. On the land available near his home in small town and suburb he will raise more and more food for his family. And a valuable by-product will be the healthful exercise he gets in doing it.

Not to be outdone, Breeze Hill had its Victory garden this year too. In a plot 35 feet square, not far from the rock-garden and the rose-trial beds, we raised more than a dozen different vegetables. To make it look as much as possible like a small home garden, we enclosed it with a white picket fence. This sets off the vegetable garden as something rather special; more than that, the fence provides a good background for the photographs that we have been taking there from seed-time to harvest.

In our own version of a Victory garden we have tried to demonstrate good garden practice for the amateur to follow. For example, in the first place we had to make up our minds to omit such vegetables as corn and potatoes, squash and cucumbers. We did not have enough space for them, and so we hardheartedly crossed them off our list before ever they were put on it! Instead, we concentrated on things that pay well in return for the room they take up: root crops like beets, carrots, and onions; leaf crops like chard, lettuce, and parsley. We also grew beans and kohlrabi, cabbage and eggplant, peppers and okra, and just a taste of celery.

Like all good gardeners, we were open-minded about new varieties. We had some of the new rhubarb chard, for instance, as well as celtuce. We made careful use of our ground by setting tomato plants along the fence in order to save the space that would be needed to tie them up on stakes. By practicing crop rotation we benefited by double crops of beets and carrots.

Many visitors to our Victory garden have been surprised at the beauty of it. Feathery carrot tops, curly parsley, healthy red cabbage, and colorful peppers combine to rival any flower-bed you ever saw! There's no reason why vegetable beds can't have borders just as other plantings have. Here is where vegetables and flowers can be combined: beets, for example, make a fine border for a flower-bed. We reversed the idea, and used sweet alyssum to edge our vegetable garden.

Armed with the first-hand experience acquired this summer, the J. Horace McFarland Co. stands ready to tell the vegetable-garden story to the world in word and photograph. We have both black and white cuts and color plates in abundance to illustrate what to plant, how to plant, and what to do with the harvest. With only a hint as to the desired content and results, our staff of writers will prepare a catalogue, a leaflet, a booklet, on the home vegetable garden, the rose garden, on perennial and annual flowers. This year's Victory gardeners have a few months ahead of them now when they can evaluate their past efforts—their successes and their mistakes—and plan for next spring's planting. They are eager for suggestions; with what experi-

ence they have had, they are more intelligent listeners to the messages being sent to them by America's live seedsmen and nurserymen. And they are inspiration to neighbors and friends who, next spring, will get "in the swim" and have a garden too.

"Vegetable Gardening in Color" is its title, Macmillan is its publisher, before Christmas is the publishing date—and Daniel J. Foley of the Mount Pleasant Press is the author of this first vegetable book *in color* to be produced as our contribution to making America vegetable-minded. We're quite proud and happy about it; watch for it at your bookstore.



BREEZE HILL NEWS FOR NOVEMBER, 1942



ROSE, SIERRA GLOW

AT BREEZE HILL the most promising of the roses making their first appearance in catalogues this fall or to have their first listing next spring is the Polyantha Pinocchio.

Pinocchio is a Kordes rose, the progeny of Eva and Geheimrat Duisberg (the latter sold in the United States

as Golden Rapture). Although neither parent has been important in this country, the offspring promises to step right along, both under glass and in the garden. The Breeze Hill plants made 2-foot, bushy growth, and while they did not recur as freely as the first performance promised, the flowers were very pretty. They were 2½ inches across, with 60 petals of peach-pink when first open; then the pigment scatters—in some flowers all the color goes to the petal edges, while in others it gathers in specks; still others become practically white. The finely varied bloom is goodlooking at all stages.

Others from Jackson & Perkins were Mary Margaret McBride, Mandalay, Sonata, Torch, Cynthia Brooke, Panorama and Greer Garson. Mary Margaret McBride has a three-year test, the plants making 3-foot upright growth with a fair amount of bloom. Oval buds opened to 4½-inch blooms of satiny salmon-pink, with a yellow base to petals; the petalage varies from 35 to 50. The fresh flowers are quite good-looking but the dead petals hold on instead of dropping clean when through; regrettably the blooms have very little scent. This is a Nicolas rose with the unpromising parentage of Sunkist and Olympiad.

Torch, a Multiflora Rambler, has been at Breeze Hill for several years and produces a nice crop of orange-scarlet flowers in late June. It looks very much like a sport of Gloria Mundi, and like that Polyantha shows red flowers occasionally.

Our plants of Mandalay and Sonata were poor, so they have not had a fair test, and we will wait until next year to give the plants an opportunity to "show their stuff."

Cynthia Brooke has a low plant with attractive roundish foliage. Fat apricot buds open to 4-inch loose flowers of soft golden yellow with a pinkish reverse, 40 petals, and a mild scent. The petals have wavy edges, giving a frilly effect. Because of its very indifferent plant and lovely flowers, this variety reminds us of the beautiful Lady Mandeville.

Four of the Conard-Pyle roses under test at Breeze Hill appear in their fall catalogues: Boudoir, Bright Wings, Fama and Grande Duchesse Charlotte.

Boudoir, from Meilland, France, is one of those twotone, globular flowers closely resembling Howard & Smith's Contrast. The plants have made 2-foot growth with heavy canes and soft foliage. Flesh-colored oval buds opened to a 4-inch cupped flower, rose-pink inside with a gray reverse. There were 40 to 45 petals and a rich fruity fragrance. The plants bloomed freely the last of May and early June, but later bloom was scarce.

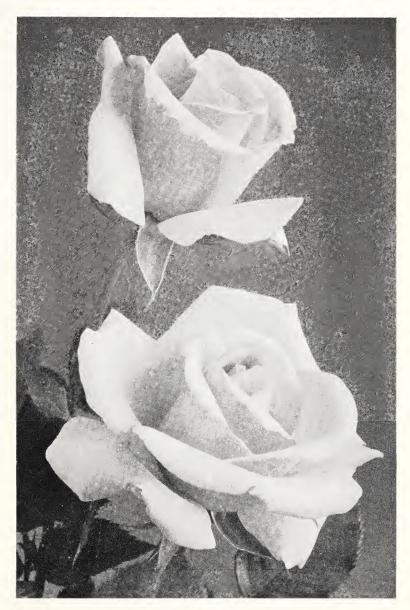
Bright Wings, a Mallerin Rose, made only moderate growth, with numerous heavy reddish canes. Oval carmine buds opened a 3¾-inch loose flower of orange-copper with a large mass of golden stamens. The petals were the same color on both sides. There were 18 to 20 petals and I noted a fruity scent. After two years, growth is yet poor, and bloom has been scarce. The opening color is good, and color is recorded as its principal merit.

Fama, from Dot, appears to be a sport of Condesa de Sástago with both plant and flowers much like that rose except that the face of the petals is usually lighter than Sástago. Spring bloom was a soft coppery apricot, while fall flowers were almost as dark as Sástago. The notes summed up "a lighter, poorer Condesa de Sástago."

Grande Duchesse Charlotte is one of the few during recent years to reach this country from the old Luxembourg firm of Ketten Bros. It has a slender plant with lovely burning copper buds, opening to a flat flower of orangey copper with a carmine reverse, but it quickly fades to coppery pink. It has about 25 petals and a fruity fragrance.

The bloom of this is much like that of Dr. Kirk, but the Kirk plant so far is much better, and produces many more flowers than the Ketten rose.

There are quite a number of Howard & Smith's novelties under test, most of them having tall growth with good



ROSE, DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

foliage. We understand that in the future Howard & Smith's roses are to be introduced in the East by Wayside Gardens, and that their spring 1943 catalogue will have three of them: Anzac, Douglas MacArthur and Pearl Harbor.

Anzac has had two years at Breeze Hill, making 4-foot growth both seasons with little black-spot bother. Plants produced an average quantity of bloom for a modern HT. Flowers averaged 4 inches in diameter and were silvery pink with a yellow base, while an amber flush warmed the reverse. There were 45 petals and a strong fruity fragrance. We were not excited about the flowers but did like the fine plants.

The rose which has been named Douglas MacArthur was grown at Breeze Hill during 1940 and 1941, and our records show that the plants made fair growth and that the foliage was good. Both oval buds and the opening bloom were shell-pink with darker inner petals and an orange blush at base; they carried a rich fruity fragrance and 35 petals. Stems had good cutting length. While the records are not enthusiastic, the only criticism was that the dead petals were retained. (Perhaps we were wrong in discarding the plants.) The third H. & S., Pearl Harbor, is quite a strong grower, topping 3 feet, which is a good height for a rose in this section. Fred Howard gave Miss Rowena Thom as one of the parents, and this shows up in the long buds and a blue tint which rather dulls the pink in bad weather. The 2-inch pink buds opened loosely, showing a silvery flesh face, warmed with an orange flush coming from the base. There were 25 large petals and a mild scent. An interesting feature is that the canes are practically thornless, making nice cutting stems.

Sunlit, an Alister Clark rose which came to Breeze Hill from Australia in 1938, is at last having a chance to get into American gardens. It has been taken up by Armstrong Nurseries and was introduced by them last winter. Sunlit appears to contain more Tea blood than the average modern Hybrid Tea, and the bushy 1½ to 2-foot plants have good

wood and good foliage. Oval-tinted buds open to 3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch flowers of satiny flesh with a pinkish apricot center. The pinkish flesh of the outer petals becomes soft apricot as the bloom matures. There are about 40 petals and a strong Tea fragrance. Flowers are generously produced, and we hope it will be widely distributed.

Other new Armstrong Hybrid Teas are Copper Nuggets and Sierra Glow. According to Armstrong's catalogue, Copper Nuggets is a free-blooming miniature rose on 15-inch plants. Our plants made 2-foot growth this year and bore a very few coppery buds which opened to 4-inch flowers with 30 petals of satiny pink blending into a yellow base. There was a mild scent. We at first feared that the wrong variety had been sent but after considering how differently some varieties act in California and Pennsylvania, we put this down as a variety to recommend for California. On the other hand, we have been pleased with Sierra Glow. This made low spreading plants with long, dark green foliage and carried its flowers singly on long stems. The first year's flowers were 41/2 inches across; this year they were 5. Formation is artistically loose and the color satiny salmonpink with an amber glow, the reverse a warmer pink. We get from 25 to 35 petals and a fruity fragrance. The buds are lovely to cut.

The Armstrong Climber, Gay Mood, went through last winter without loss of wood, and is now 8 feet tall. Flowers were 4 inches across, of coppery pink, flushed orange, changing through warm pink to pale pink as the flower aged. A golden base to the petals and a fruity fragrance added to its desirability. Our plant provided several flowers during summer and fall in addition to the June display. Gay Mood is promising.

Charlotte, originated by Carl G. Duehrsen and introduced by California Roses, Inc., has shapely, coppery buds which develop 3-inch, 35-petaled flowers of satiny pink warmed with a golden glow from the yellow base. The color is the same on both sides of the petals, and is pleasing as it fades. There is a mild fragrance. Plants made nice 2-foot growth and bloomed very well. About the only fault noted was the fact that the dead petals do not drop.

Pink Diamond, Lovett's new introduction, is one of Howard & Smith's originations and has a strong healthy plant 3 feet tall, plentifully clothed with foliage. It blooms singly on long cutting stems and bears nicely formed light pink buds which open 3½-inch spiral blooms of clean pink. It has some scent but is not as sweet as might be expected. We look forward to another year's performance.

Colleen Moore and Edith Willkie are two roses from Jos. H. Hill Co. which showed considerable promise in spite of the fact that poor plants were received for the test.

The former is a 3½-inch bloom of blood-red, enriched with blackish shades, the black turning to dark violet with age. Form is good and there is a rich Damask fragrance. With only 25 petals this summer, it opened nicely and was a splendid rose to cut.

Edith Willkie will apparently have about the same average HT. growth and bore pointed apricot buds, opening reddish apricot, with 40 petals and a delightful fragrance. This year's bloom averaged 3½ inches across.

We want to see both of these varieties on better plants in 1943.

And now to look over fall 1941 and spring 1942 introductions. Magic Red which made its debut last spring has pleased us all during the 1942 bloom season. The plant is low but sturdy and has been very generous with its old-fashioned flowers of deep blood-red. There are at least 50 petals to provide the "full" appearance of the old HP.'s, but unfortunately it is very weak on perfume. Otherwise it has a lot of promise.

Neige Parfum has not been any better than it was last year, but like a tuberose it is worth growing for its heavenly fragrance alone, while Pan America is just where it was a



ROSE, BOUDOIR

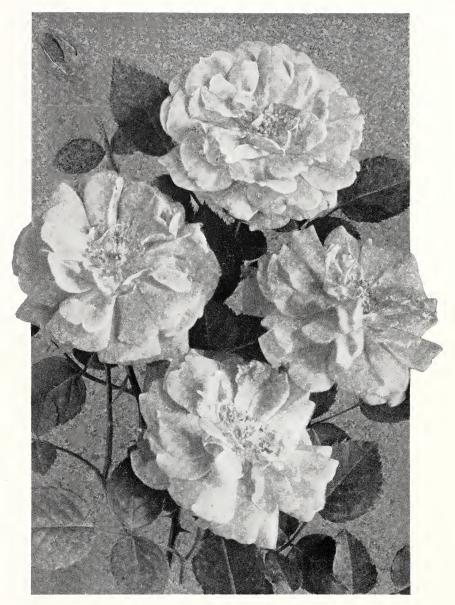
year ago, producing a very few, gloriously colored flowers on weak spindly stems. Rarely is a bloom held upright so it can be enjoyed, and about the only thing to do is cut the buds and let them open in the house.

Cheer, Kordes' new large-flowered Hybrid Polyantha which J. & P. introduced last spring, seems to be well named, for its 4-inch, deep pink flowers do have a cheerful appearance. The plants are average low Hybrid Teas with about the same amount of bloom as a decorative HT., and require the same care.

John Wallace from Klyn has 15-inch bushy plants and is another of those Polyanthas with globular flowers, this one of bright carmine-pink. Each of the 17 petals has a light base. Both plant and flower closely resemble Margo Koster in everything except color of the bloom, and a guess would say it was a sport of the Koster rose or one of its close relatives.

For years we have enjoyed a real repeat-blooming red climber in Auguste Kordes, climbing sport of the Hybrid Polyantha, Joseph Guy, known in this country as Lafayette. The Breeze Hill plant came direct from Kordes in 1929, has been as hardy as any of the large-flowered Climbers, and now has 12 to 15-foot canes. There is usually a short rest period after the May-June burst of bloom but flowers appear again in July and provide some color all during summer and fall. Breeze Hill considers this to be the best red everblooming Climber so far produced, and regrets that there has never been a sincere effort to put this rose where it belongs—in every garden having a winter climate similar to that at Breeze Hill.

Among the most interesting roses in the garden are Borderer and Marjorie Palmer, from Australia. They are Alister Clark's originations. Both are out of the American Rambler Jersey Beauty, and both show their Wichuraiana ancestry in their small, shiny, healthy and very attractive foliage. They should be classed as Wichuraiana-Polyanthas.



ROSE, MARJORIE PALMER

Borderer's plants are low and spreading, usually not over 10 to 12 inches tall, but with a spread of 2 to 3 feet. They are in continuous bloom from late May until frost, with 2-inch, very double flat flowers of watermelon-pink with a yellowish base to each of the 70 to 80 tiny petals. They are sweetly scented. The plants are so good looking that they would be desirable ornamentals if they never bloomed.

Marjorie Palmer is a stronger grower, 1½ to 2 feet high, with a 2 to 3-foot spread, profuse shiny foliage and quantities of 3-inch double flowers of satiny dark pink. Petalage runs from 40 to 80, with many of the petals lightly marked with a white line and a silvery edge. Flowers appear singly and in clusters up to 15, and they are deliciously fragrant. This is one of the best bloomers in the garden. Although Borderer was introduced in Australia in 1918 and Marjorie Palmer in 1936, we do not find either of them catalogued in the United States.

#### BUDDLEIA ALTERNIFOLIA

ALTHOUGH the flowers cannot compare with the magnificent spikes of the Davidi family, this Butterfly Bush is a splendid and dependably hardy shrub.

Plants in their native China are said to grow 12 feet in height, but under cultivation here they usually keep within 8 feet.

The alternating lanceolate leaves are from 2 to 3 inches long, light green above and grayish white beneath. The lavender flowers are 1½ inches across and borne in tight halfround heads 1 inch through, containing some 20 flowers, each head nestling against half a dozen tiny leaves. A brown throat gives each flower the typical Buddleia "eye." Like branches and foliage, the bloom-heads alternate, and are so close together that they often touch. A strong pinelike scent adds a desirable feature to this rather rare shrub.

## THE "ALL-AMERICA" NOVELTY ANNUALS FOR 1943

REMEMBERING that there were 99 flower entries in the 1936 All-America Selections, the present year's mere 27 varieties under test made one wonder just how much of the dropping off could be blamed on the war, and how much to better home testing by the originators.

In 1939, with 84 entries, 53 were American and 34 from abroad. At this rate, and with the war shutting out all foreign novelties, and with gardening on the increase here, a longer list of American entries for 1942 could well have been expected. Instead, we dropped from the 53 of 1939 to 27 for this year—about half. Although there were few items in this year's trials to enthuse over, this judge got the impression that the trials indicated that most of the growers really felt that they did have something this time. If this is true, then we have really progressed.



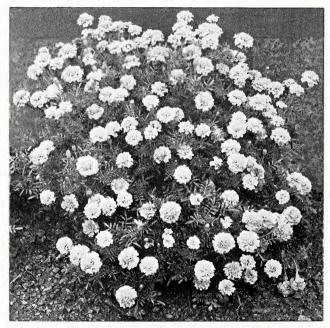
BURPEE'S ALL-DOUBLE PETUNIA, AMERICA Silver Medal

Six of this year's entries won awards, with two runners-up having recognition.

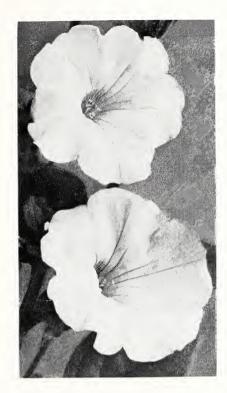
The Breeze Hill records of the prize-winners are:

A Silver Medal went to Marigold, Sunkist, entered by Bodger. It is an orange sport of last year's Butterball, and is one of those Harmony-type Marigolds with small double flowers of clean orange. The little blooms are about I inch across and began to be produced on June 10, when the plants were only 4 inches tall. Bloom continued right through into October, when the plants were 10 inches tall and as much, or more, in diameter. One pleasing feature was that the plants were 100 per cent true, with not a rogue in the whole bed.

The only Bronze Medal went to Petunia, Igloo, a white Hybrida Nana Compacta variety entered by Joseph Harris



BODGER'S MARIGOLD, SUNKIST Silver Medal



Joseph Harris Co.'s.
PETUNIA, IGLOO
Bronze Medal



Joseph Harris Co's.
PETUNIA, ENGLISH VIOLET

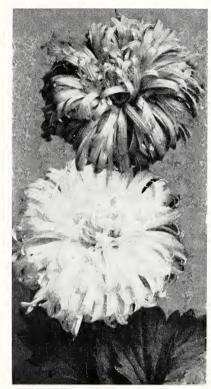
Honorable Mention

Company. While this unfortunately was not assigned a favorable location at Breeze Hill, it did bloom profusely right up to the time the plants were destroyed in late September. The single flowers were 1½ inches across, with rounded lobes, pure white with a green throat. There are some splendid large-flowered white Petunias already in commerce but this is the first small-flowered white that has really appealed to us.

Following this closely is another Harris introduction, the Petunia, English Violet, which received Honorable Mention. Everything about this was much the same as Igloo except for the color, which was a rather nice shade of violet-blue. This bloomed with about the same freedom as did Igloo, and the plants had about the same growth. We felt that these two Petunias would surely become popular and certainly were entitled to the awards received.

Another entry which pleased us very much and which received Honorable Mention was the Cosmos, Dazzler, entered by the Bodgers. It is an amaranth-crimson selection of Sensation type, and our plants began to bloom on July 7 when only 30 inches tall. When the last records were taken in mid-September they were 5 to 6 feet tall, and blooming generously. The branching plants were at Breeze Hill unduly crowded into a bed, with no chance to fully develop, in spite of which they flowered splendidly, bearing 3½-inch, single flowers of amaranth, aging to fuchsia-purple. These blooms were on 6 to 12-inch stems, useful for cutting. The flowers were not 100 per cent true; there were two distinct colors, with quite a number of the plants producing flowers which opened purple and aged light crimson.

Two Asters received Honorable Mention. These were Victory Giants Mixed, entered by Sluis and Groot of America, and Crego Aster, Navy Blue, entered by Burpee. Unfortunately neither of these did a thing at Breeze Hill and had to be put down as failures for us.



SLUIS AND GROOT'S ASTER, VICTORY GIANTS Honorable Mention



BURPEE'S ASTER, NAVY BLUE

Honorable Mention



BODGER'S COSMOS, DAZZLER

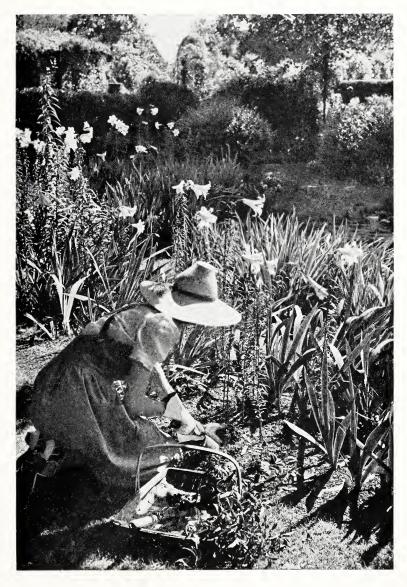
Honorable Mention

We understand the Petunia Brilliant Rose, entered by Waller-Franklin, and Marigold Honeycomb, entered by Burpee were also within a very few points of receiving Honorable Mention. However, at Breeze Hill we did not have plants enough of the Petunia to get a fair test, but we did have a fine planting of Marigold Honeycomb which appeared to us to be about as important as anything in the trials. This began to bloom in late July when only 12 inches tall, and was still blooming freely when this was written, in early October, the plants being then about 2 feet tall. The 3-inch flowers of rich deep orange provided the most colorful bed in this year's trials. Both foliage and flowers were scentless, it should be noted.

Another Marigold not getting into the prize-winners was Burpee's Mayling, a tall African which did not bloom to amount to anything until September. Flowers were 2½ inches across, of light yellow, and probably belong in the class now known as Carnation-flowered. This we considered a good late variety.

A couple of other entries which appealed to us but which did not rate high enough to get awards, were Burpee's Giant Imperial Larkspur Ruby, which to us was about the best red Larkspur we have ever grown at Breeze Hill; and Ipomea Columbia, from Vaughan. This Morning-Glory made a strong-growing plant with 10 to 12-foot runners, which produced a respectable amount of bloom keeping open on all cloudy days. This had attractive foliage and began to bloom in late June when the plants were only 4 feet tall. Flowers were 3 to 3½-inch trumpets of blue, edged with bluish white, with a reddish star, and a bright glow in the throat making a flower which one could, with a little stretch of the imagination, call red, white and blue. We liked this as a novelty and felt that it should have been given more consideration.

In addition to these, Burpee's All-Double Petunia America tested in 1941 and held back because of seed shortage, received a Silver Medal. Breeze Hill records show that this had 2-inch, camellia-like flowers of deep rose. These were 100 per cent true to color, and most of the flowers were fully double. We liked it for its distinctiveness and free bloom.





NEW ROSE, PINOCCHIO